



# The CHIMES

## MUHLENBERG: A WELLSPRING OF GRACE

*Muhlenberg Lutheran Church strives to be a Wellspring of God's Grace in Jesus Christ.*

*Open † Authentic † Relational † Serving*

*Published Weekly by Muhlenberg Lutheran Church*

281 East Market Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 † Phone: 540-434-3496

E-mail address: [info@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:info@muhlenberglutheran.org) † Website: [www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org)

Pastor Mark Radecke: [radecke@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:radecke@muhlenberglutheran.org) † Pastor Paul Weber: [weber@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:weber@muhlenberglutheran.org)

**February 18, 2018**

## FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

### WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

† **Call Committee Update:** We are pleased to inform you that we have scheduled initial interviews for seven candidates. This is a very important part of the process. The number of candidates interested in Muhlenberg is a testament to the strength of our faith community. As we enter this next phase of the process, let's continue to grow our faith together and be that welcoming beacon of Christ's love to newcomers.

Please keep the candidates, the Call Committee and the entire congregation in your prayers. Thank you for your continued support. *Mark Warner, Call Committee Chair*

† **See pages 3-4 for Lenten Opportunities.**

### TODAY AT MUHLENBERG

The First Sunday in Lent has traditionally begun with the singing in procession of Martin Luther's Great Litany. We will experience this today as the Great Litany takes the place of the confession, processional song, and prayers. This will be a new experience for us. Please follow the text closely as it is chanted so that the words truly become part of our personal and communal prayer.

We also sing Martin Luther's great hymn, A Mighty Fortress. Today's sermon will be based on the words of verse 3, "one little word subdues him." The "battle hymn of the Reformation" has long been associated with the gospel for the First Sunday in Lent that speaks of Jesus' temptation by Satan in the wilderness. When this hymn first appeared, it was distributed on single sheets in the marketplace so people could learn the words and melody at home. Luther referred to A Mighty Fortress not as a "battle hymn" but as a "song of comfort." It is based on Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Today we sing the hymn using Luther's original rhythm—not stodgy and plodding, but vibrant and vigorous, just as the church must be in our time.

There are no flowers during this penitential season. We receive unleavened wafers at communion and receive communion in our customary way.

### WELCOME GUESTS

*We are blessed to welcome our guests today. We have a gift waiting for you at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Area (main church entrance) and ask that you complete a blue guest card and/or sign our guest register. If you prefer, you may visit us at [www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org) or scan this QR code to securely register online.*



## THIS WEEK AT MUHLENBERG

### GO-GO GROUP BREAKFAST (55+)

Are you 55+ and enjoy fellowship with others? Join the Go-Go Group at Thomas House in Dayton **THIS Tuesday, February 20, 8:30 am.** Contact Dan Werner at 433-3912 for more information about the group and its activities.

### MARY MARTHA MEETING

**Thursday, February 22 at 6:30 pm** at Smith House (311 S. Main St, Harrisonburg - the building just south of the Quilt Museum). Our own Jenny Burden (Arts Council of the Valley) will host an art discussion. The exhibition this month is *Photography from the Collection of Janet & Frank Marshman*. It features photographs from nationally and internationally known photographers, including Sally Mann, Kim Weston, Imogen Cunningham, and more. All are welcome. For details or to RSVP, contact Vicki Heitsch ([vaah@earthlink.net](mailto:vaah@earthlink.net)/478-3567).

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are always in need of all types of worship servants: lectors, ushers, acolytes, communion assistants/stewards, greeters, sound techs, etc.

**Sign up for the month of March (including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil)** in the notebook at the Connection Center! One-on-one training can be arranged – just indicate the training needed on the sign-up sheet or contact Kathy Thompson (578-4830 or [thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu)). Prefer to work behind the scenes? We have many opportunities – talk with Kathy to learn how you can serve.

If you prefer to sign up online, follow the path below from our website:

Worship + Community > Worship: What to Expect > Worship + Music Leadership

## TIME, TALENT & TREASURE

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

8:00 Worship	84	Ash Wed. AM	17
9:30 Worship	91	Ash Wed. Noon	46
11:00 Worship	<u>157</u>	Ash Wed. PM	135
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>		

### MINISTRY OF THE WEEK:

#### EVANGELISM

*This space features one committee/ministry team each week. Highlights are provided so we become more familiar with their work.*

The Evangelism Ministry focuses on how we as a congregation can be more intentional in our outreach about MLC and the Gospel. We welcome anyone interested in working with us on outreach, visitor response, prospective new members, or new member sponsors.

Contact Kathy Thompson [thompskb@jmu.edu](mailto:thompskb@jmu.edu) or Steve Reich [reichsa@jmu.edu](mailto:reichsa@jmu.edu) or join us on Ministries Night.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Through December 2017			
	Y-T-D <u>Actual</u>	Y-T-D <u>Budget</u>	Y-T-D <u>Last Year</u>
Gifts & Offerings	\$54,786	\$53,872	\$55,900
Total Receipts	\$60,639	\$61,749	\$63,582
Expenses	\$82,188	\$94,581	\$84,292
<b>Excess Income/ (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$21,549)</b>	<b>(\$32,832)</b>	<b>(\$20,710)</b>

Giving in support of our Spending Plan: \$ 12,823.20  
 Giving to Other Designated Funds: \$ 7,036.52  
**Total Giving for the Week \$ 19,859.72**

*See details in the notebook at the Connection Center.*

January Thrivent Choice Dollars: \$775

To give online, scan here →





# LENTEN ACTIVITIES at Muhlenberg

## MIDWEEK LENTEN PREACHING SERIES AND SUPPERS

We are excited to announce a preaching series for our Midweek Lenten Services to be held in the Sanctuary **each Wednesday during Lent at 6:30 pm. At 5:45 pm, a light supper sponsored by various congregational groups will be served in the Nielsen Room and Wayland Hall.** Here is the list of preachers:

- **2/21 Pastor Paul Weber:** “The Covenant with Noah and the Mark of Baptism”
- **2/28 Pastor Alex Zuber:** “The Covenant with Abraham & Sarah and the Mark of the Word”
- **3/07 Pastor Mark Radecke:** “The Mosaic Covenant and the Mark of Confession & Absolution”
- **3/14 Pastor Robert Alley:** “The Covenant with David and the Mark of Worship”
- **3/21 Pastor Kelly Bayer Derrick, Assistant to the Bishop:** “The New Covenant and the Mark of Ministry”

We are especially excited to hear from Pastor Alex who was active in our campus ministry as a student, from Pastor Alley who is active among us, and from Pastor Kelly who represents the Synod and is the daughter of Chip & Diane Bayer.

Our sponsoring groups for the 5:45 supper:

2/21 Choir	3/7 Youth
2/28 Fellowship	3/14 Mary Martha
	3/21 Council

This will be a great evening of fellowship and worship!

## LENTEN MIDDAY RECITAL SERIES

*Martin Luther said, “Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world.”*

Please join us **Thursdays at noon** during the Lenten season as we feature a variety of incredible musicians. Each week this 30-minute program offers an opportunity to temporarily release the stress of the day and be rejuvenated through the power of music. Concerts are free and open to all. Artists performing this season:

- Feb 22 Angel Azzarra, operatic soprano**  
*Manhattan School of Music graduate*
- Mar 1 Edward Gant, cello**  
*JMU Music Faculty*
- Mar 8 Chris Carrillo, trumpet**  
*JMU Music Faculty*
- Mar 15 MLC Members**  
Instrumentalists and vocalists from the MLC community
- Mar 22 Florence Jowers, organist**  
*Minister of Music, Christ Lutheran, Staunton*



## MORE LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

### REQUEST FOR LENTEN DEVOTIONS

We are seeking 40 Muhlenberg members to tell their stories of faith in 200+ words to be published this Lent as *Stories of Faith from Muhlenberg*. These will be sent out in a daily email and printed weekly and left at the Connection Center during the Lenten season. If you plan to participate, *contact Mycah McNett* ([mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:mcnett@muhlenberglutheran.org) / 434-3496, or leave a note in her mailbox).

### LENTEN MATERIALS

As part of your Lenten journey, please use your **Lenten Devotional book** available on the tables in the Gathering Area. You can also pick up an **ELCA World Hunger Box**. The money raised will be used to feed the hungry all over the world. Please consider using these resources as we journey together through Lent. *Contact Diane Bayer* ([bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) / 434-3496) *with any questions.*

---

### NICARAGUA MISSION TRIP

From **February 16-25**, Pastor Mark and Tami Radecke will lead a team of 14 members and friends of Muhlenberg on a mission trip to the Nicaraguan Christian Children's Center and School (CICRIN) on Ometepe Island in Lake Nicaragua. The team will work with local residents on various construction projects and teach Vacation Bible School.

Please keep the team and those they serve in your prayers, and watch our church's Facebook page for photos of their experience.

Thanks to all who are providing financial, material and spiritual support for the team and the children and staff of CICRIN!

## LOCAL & GLOBAL MISSION

### BASKETS OF PROMISE

During Lent the Christian Formation (through the JAMers elementary youth group) and Local & Global Mission ministry teams are sponsoring Lutheran World Relief's Baskets of Promise appeal by collecting items for Personal Care Kits.

**TODAY** we will collect **BARS OF SOAP** (individually wrapped with original wrapping please).

**NEXT Sunday, February 25**, we will collect **BATH TOWELS** (lightweight, dark colors, 52" x 27"). We ask for lightweight towels because they dry quicker in the sun!

Look for a complete list of the items at the Connection Center. *Contact Diane Bayer* ([bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org) / 434-3496) *with any questions.*

### HURRICANE RELIEF TRIP

We are looking into a **Hurricane Relief trip November 3-11**. This window is very *tentative* since we have not yet connected with a sponsoring host unit in Florida. Late October may be a better window to look at, as you consider making this domestic trip with us.

We plan to do some in-house fundraising to defer the expenses; however, the group that goes will be responsible for the *majority* of the cost. The 2018 church budget does NOT include any funding for this trip.

At this time, we are only looking for interest. *Email Herb Amato* ([amatohk@jmu.edu](mailto:amatohk@jmu.edu)) *if you would like to be on our email distribution list.* Based on interest, we will start putting together a budget and an itinerary. Once we have an idea of the cost and departure date, we will ask for a *firm* commitment and non-refundable registration deposit. If you have questions, please contact any of us.

*Herb Amato, Neil Alexander, Erin Burke*

## MUHLENBERG NEWS

*Ever wonder where communion bread comes from?*

**VOLUNTEERS!**

*Ever wonder how communion glasses get cleaned??*

**VOLUNTEERS!**

*Ever wonder how communion linen gets cleaned???*

**VOLUNTEERS!**

None of these necessary tasks are difficult or all that time consuming. Volunteers are needed to assist those who are carrying the load week to week.

Why not spread these tasks among our large congregation you say...well then, why not volunteer?

- Contact David Hill (234-8892) if interested in baking communion bread.
- Contact Sylvia Hollen (sahollen@comcast.net / 833-6723) to get on the list to clean the communion linen.
- We especially need help to clean and store the glasses and communion ware after the 9:30 and 11:00 am services. Contact David Hill.

**Will you help?**

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Designated Choice Dollars are offered to eligible Thrivent members based on insurance premiums, contract values, etc. Choice Dollars can be directed to specific organizations, including Muhlenberg. *To designate where your Choice Dollars are given, call 1-800-847-4836 or visit [thrivent.com/choicedollars](http://thrivent.com/choicedollars).* You will need your 9-digit Thrivent ID number which can be found on your Thrivent statement. Visit the Connection Center for full details.



## CREATION CARE TIP



*Creation Care offers a simple tip that will help you protect God's earth. Contact Ramona Sanders for more information: 433-1165 or [rsanders97@verizon.net](mailto:rsanders97@verizon.net).*

According to USDA, foods should never be defrosted with hot water because it increases the likelihood of food-borne illnesses. Additionally, running the tap uses two or three gallons of water per minute.

You can save a lot of water by defrosting food in the refrigerator, which is also safer.

## REMINDER

### MISSED WORSHIP LAST WEEK?

If you miss worship one Sunday, chances are you feel a bit out of the loop. Extra copies of *The Chimes*, worship booklets, and sermons are available on the credenza in the administrative hallway. Stop by and catch up on what you've missed. Additionally, sermons and *The Chimes* are available at [www.muhlenberglutheran.org](http://www.muhlenberglutheran.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### ISSUES AT THE END OF LIFE

Are you interested in learning about matters that have to do with the end of life, from religious, emotional, practical and spiritual perspectives? While he was at Susquehanna University, Pastor Mark taught a national award-winning course on such issues (<https://goo.gl/EK8GFL>), and is open to teaching an abbreviated form of the class at Muhlenberg. Participants will decide the topics to be addressed, which could include religious/theological/spiritual perspectives on end of life and “afterlife,” grief in America, constructing and leaving a personal legacy, funeral practices & options, advance directives, physician assisted death, and what to say/what not to say to those who are grieving. Other topics are also possible.

A first session for those interested will be **Tuesday, February 27 from 5:30 to 6:25 pm**. The group will meet on Tuesdays at that hour; participants will decide how often the class will meet (weekly, bi-weekly or monthly). Please indicate your interest by signing up in the notebook at the Connection Center.

### ACTS SPRING COURSE

**March 10 and April 21** at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waynesboro (or at two simulcast locations). Mark Vitalis Hoffman will present on the Parables of Jesus as part of the New Testament ACTS course. Registration forms are at the Connection Center in the Gathering Area. If you have questions or are interested in scholarship availability, *contact Diane Bayer (434-3496)*.

## SECOND HOME NEWS

### READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY!

*Grab Your Hat and Read  
with the Cat or a CHILD!*

Celebrate *Read Across America Day* with Second Home **February 28, 4:30-5:30 pm** in the MAC.

Second Home is currently putting together an event to celebrate *Read Across America* and to promote literacy among our families, but we need you! **Our goal is to have a volunteer for every child at Second Home!** This is a great opportunity for people who can make only a small time commitment but want the chance to get involved in Second Home.

Bring your favorite Dr. Seuss book or one you haven't read yet, and come read to a child! If you want to join in the fun, *please contact the Second Home office (432-7989 or [secondhomeharrisonburg@gmail.com](mailto:secondhomeharrisonburg@gmail.com))*.



## CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

### AN INVITATION TO COLLEGE STUDENTS

College students who are part of our worshipping community are invited to meet with Pastor Alex Zuber and the Campus Ministry Committee **Wednesday, February 28, 7:00 pm** (after the Midweek Lenten Service). We will hear of Pastor Alex's experience as a JMU student involved in campus ministry.

Students may also want to hear Pastor Alex preach during the 6:30 pm service and enjoy the free supper served at 5:45 pm in the Nielsen Room (downstairs).

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION NEWS

Contact Christian Formation Minister Diane Bayer  
(434-3496 or [bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:bayer@muhlenberglutheran.org))  
for more information.

### SHARING GOD'S WORD

Classes **begin in designated locations Sundays at 9:30. Children should be picked up immediately** following the 9:30 liturgy.

Children's Church is held during the 11:00 service for children 3-7 years old. After Children's Time with the pastors, children are escorted downstairs to the Nielsen Room. Children return to their parents in the sanctuary during the Sharing of the Peace.

*Pick up a green Christian Formation brochure from the Connection Center. It contains more information about classes for children and adults.*

### FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

 First Communion Classes for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> graders and higher will be led by our pastors **Sundays, March 4, 11, and 18 from 12:15-1:00 pm** in the Augsburg Room. A parent or guardian for each child is asked to attend the class as well. *Please contact Diane Bayer to enroll your child in the class.*

There will be a final session on Saturday, March 24, 9:30 am when the class will make communion bread in the MAC, learn about the church's communion vessels, and review the service for their First Communion.

Those attending the classes will receive First Communion with their families on Maundy Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm.

If you have a child 1<sup>st</sup> grade or younger who would like to receive Holy Communion, please call one of the pastors for a conversation.

## JAMERS NEWS

Last Sunday, JAMers worked together to make 10 fleece blankets and 4 fleece ponchos for Our Community Place. They had a great time making items for those in need as they shared their love and used their hands to do God's work. They have been learning what it means to be a disciple of Jesus, and this was a great hands-on example. Great job JAMers!

It is a pleasure to spend time together as you continue to grow in faith and caring for each other, your church, and your community.

### TWO ADULT CLASSES COMBINED No Experience Necessary Bible Study and the ELCA Social Statement

If you haven't joined a class yet, this might just be the class for you. All are welcome! If you were part of the ELCA Social Statements class, come and be part of this combined class!

---

### NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

New members will be received **NEXT Sunday, February 25 at the 11:00 service**. A reception will follow in the Gathering Area. Please seek an opportunity to welcome our new brothers and sisters in Christ.



## JOYS, THANKS & CONCERNS

*This is the space for sharing joys, thanks, and concerns of our congregation, our synod, and the wider church. Please lift these up as a part of your daily prayers. To share joy, thanks, or concern (e.g. birth, illness, injury, or death of an immediate family member; thank-you and congratulatory notes, etc.), contact Parish Administrator Linda Depoy at 434-3496 or [depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org). Submissions will be printed with consideration for space and appropriateness at the discretion of the pastors and editor.*

✚ Congratulations to the following members who are celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!

**Audrey Cook**, Feb. 16 (3935 Sunnyside Dr., Lakeview 169, Harrisonburg 22801)

**Hilda Arnaud**, Feb. 28 (2712 Chris Street, Harrisonburg 22802)

**Katie Ray**, Mar. 5 (1585 Pine Court, Harrisonburg 22802)

✚ Jose & Marissa Gil are the proud parents of Cecilia Regina, born January 12. She is the great-granddaughter of Juanita Propst, the granddaughter of Karen Propst McGrath & Mike McGrath, and the great niece of Marilynn Jarrells and Terry Propst.

✚ Below is a note from one of the guests at Open Doors, which Muhlenberg hosted at Blessed Sacrament last week.

*For all the people at this church I will say thanks, nice the way you take of all of us. Nice the way charismatic full of love to help us. Someone have different situation to be homeless, problems we have to deal with it, and the end no matter the situation you people have compacion for all us. Sometime I feel sorry because some people, they don't obey the rules of the shelter. Anyway myself like a Christian, my Hope Faith Love is for all the same. Thanks for everything. Proverbs 3:1-6. Virginia is for Lovers and Puerto Rico too.*

*Anonymous Open Doors Guest*

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

### PRAYING OUR FAITH TOGETHER!

For individual and family use. Scripture citations taken from ELW's 3-Year Daily Lectionary, p. 1132-1143, (Year B).

**Mon. Eph. 2:1-10**                      **Thu. Romans 3:21-31**  
**Tue. 1 Tim. 3:14-16**                **Fri. Romans 4:1-12**  
**Wed. Matt. 4:1-11**                    **Sat. Mark 8:27-30**  
**Sun. Mark 8:31-38**

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

### February 19-25

<b>Mon.</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Congregation Council Mtg.</b>
<b>Tue.</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Go-Go Group Breakfast</b>
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Celebration Singers</b>
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Gloria Dei Ringers</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>4:45 pm</b>	<b>Cherub Choir</b>
	<b>5:15 pm</b>	<b>SonShine Singers</b>
	<b>5:45 pm</b>	<b>Lenten Supper</b>
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Lenten Preaching Series</b>
	<b>7:15 pm</b>	<b>Sanctuary Choir</b>
<b>Thu.</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Comfort Makers</b>
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>Mary Martha Meeting</b>
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>8:00, 9:30 &amp; 11:00 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Christian Formation</b>
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>New Members Received</b>
	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>New Member Reception</b>

The weekly deadline for routine articles for *The Chimes* is Thursday at 8 am. Requests for a series, inserts or full-column articles should be made two weeks in advance. Submit information to Linda Depoy ([depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496](mailto:depoy@muhlenberglutheran.org/434-3496)).

Additionally, requests to utilize space in the Gathering Area on Sunday or post information at the Connection Center should be made to Linda as soon as planned, but no later than Thursdays at 8 am.

Check bulletin boards for community information.

Like us at [facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran](https://facebook.com/muhlenberglutheran).